IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE Group Art Unit: 2811 In Re the Application of: MIZUHARA et al. Examiner: Ori Nadav Serial No.: 09/037,674 Filed: March 9, 1998 "EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EV 227133227US Atty. File No.: 2933SE-11-CIP-2 DATE OF DEPOSIT: 3/20/03 I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS WITH THE UNITED STATES "SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICES For: POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.10 ON THE DATE PASSIVATION FILM" INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231. Assistant Commissioner for Patents TYPED OR PRINTED NAME: 1 Washington, D. C. 20231 Sir: The references cited on attached Form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the cited references: XAre enclosed herewith. Are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), because the references were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior application Serial No. _____ filed ___ which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation. Examiner's attention is drawn to the following co-pending applications, copies of which have been or are being submitted:

X Other: The reference enclosed herewith was first cited in an Office Action during the prosecution of a related U.S. Patent Application (No. 09/716,334). A copy of the Office Action is enclosed herewith.

filed _____

Serial No. _____ filed ____

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented.

Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.

It is respectfully requested that the cited information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and the references made of record therein.

FEES

	37 CFR 1.97(b): No fee is believed due in connection with this submission, because the information disclosure statement		
_	submitted herewith is satisfies one of the following conditions ("X" indicates satisfaction):		
		Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution	
		application under 37 CFR 1.53(d), or	
		Within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application as set	
		forth in 37 CFR 1.491 or	
		Before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or	
		Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under	
		37 CFR 1.114.	
	Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to		
	Deposit Account 19-1970.		
\boxtimes	37 CFR 1.97(c): The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after all the above conditions (37		
	CFR 1.97(b)), but before the mailing date of one of the following conditions:		
	(1) a final action under 37 C.F.R. 1.113 or		
	(2) a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. 1.311, or		
		(3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.	
	This Information Disclosure Statement is accompanied by:		
	A Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e). Although no fee is believed due, if any fee is		
	deemed due in connection with this submission, please charge such fee to Deposit Account 19-1970.		
		OR	
:	A check in the amount of \$180.00 for the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p) for submission of an		
	information disclosure statement. Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-		
	1970.		
	37 CFR 1.97(d): This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(c).		
	This information Disclosure Statement includes a Certification (below) as specified by 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)		
	AND		
	Applicants hereby requests consideration of the reference(s) disclosed herein. Enclosed is the fee in the		
	amount of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. 1.17(p). Please credit any overpayment or charge any underpayment to Deposit		
	Account No. 19-1970	. Election to pay the fee should not be taken as an indication that applicant(s) cannot execute a	
	certification.		

Certification (37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)) (Applicable only if checked)

	(Applicable only if checked)
X The undersig	med certifies that:
any commu	em of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in inication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than as prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1). A copy of the communication from the foreign patent office is enclosed.
	OR
communica knowledge this Informa	n of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a ation from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the of the undersigned after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in ation Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. 1.56(c more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(2).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 20, 2003